Recording of a video film at Ongole auction platform

1406. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was recently tension at Ongole auction platform of Tobacco Board, when a video film was being recorded;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CON SUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DIS TRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COM-MERCH (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) On 17th June, 1993. a video team engaged by ITC Ltd. came to Ongole-T Auction Platform to film the auetion proceedings. The purpose was to show the film to ITC's foreign customers overseas. The farmers somehow objected to the making of the film and the exercise was interrupted midway.

Openae; of auction platforms of Tobacco Board

1407. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that auction platform of tobacco board have been opened very late: and

(b) if so. what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CON-SUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DIS-TRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COM MERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) The Andhra PTa-deeh auctions commenced on 27-2-93, about two weeks later than the previous year. The main reasons for this delay were as follows:—

(i) Late closure of the preceding Kar-nataka auctions due to marketing of *am* extra large crop size; and

(ii) Lack of enthusiasm amongst ex-porters because their finances were locked tip in stocks purchased in the previous year in anticipation of Russian orders.

The Karnataka auctions commenced on 21-9-92 last year. This year the auctions have yet to commence.

Auction of F.C.V. Tobacco

1408. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of F.C.V. Tobacco left outs/remnants col lected on the auction platforms is passed on to Indian Tobacco Association, each year, since the auction system has been introduced; and

(b) what is the value thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CON-SUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DIS-TRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE TN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Tobacco left-outs